LABOR AND THE LABORERS.

[Under the above head we propose to publish, as rapidly as convenient, a series of articles succinctly portraying the state of Labor and the condition of the Laborers in the different parts of the United States. Statistical and other information upon the subject is solicited, and when used will be paid for by *The Tribune*.]

III.

THE INDIA-RUBBER TRADE.

Among the many new avenues to industry and wealth which the inventive genius of the present age has called into existence, none occupies a more prominent position than the manufacture of what is called India-Rubber Goods—a designation which, however incorrect in its application, we shall adopt, as being that by which articles made of what is more properly termed caoutchouc are generally known.

Though it is so very recently since this singular substance was applied, for the first time, to the manufacture of goods of general utility, and even luxury, the India-Rubber Trade has already become one of the prominent branches of industry in the United States, there being invested in it already a large amount of wealth, producing enormous annual returns, and giving direct employment to many thousands of artisans. Its rapid rise and progress (exhibiting an elasticity quite in keeping with the peculiar properties of the article from which it takes its name), the universality of its uses, and the troubles which have accompanied its short career, form altogether so interesting a theme as to be eminently deserving, we think, of an extended notice.

A brief sketch of the history of the natural product will be necessary to give completeness to our subject. The Caoutchouc, or India-rubber Tree (the *Ficus Elasticus* of naturalists), is to be found extensively in most tropical countries, though for some time our principal importation was derived almost exclusively from South America, but owing to the inadequacy of the supply from that quarter to meet the growing demand, a quantity has during the last two years been brought from Java, Penang, Singapore and Assam. Yet with all these additions to our sources of obtaining this useful article, it is apprehended that the market will shortly fail to offer enough to meet the growing demand at remunerative prices, as this gum, formerly so despised as not to be worth importation, has increased in value, within a few years, from 15 to 60 cents per pound—a price almost too high to render its manufacture remunerative, though it is difficult to obtain it, even at this enormous rates. Yet this deficiency arises not from natural but solely from artificial causes, the interior of the countries to which this tree is indigenous, being for the most part inaccessible to our traders; but were it otherwise, South America alone could assuredly supply all the wants of this Continent and Europe. But even should that source, from any unforeseen cause, be closed against us, there is no doubt that the innumerable islands of the Indian Archipelago, which are prolific in the Caoutchouc tree, would from the less cost of labor there, administer to all our own wants, if the jealous policy of those countries in excluding foreigners could be overcome.—This concession, if ever made, must inevitably be a work of time, while the emergency of the case is daily more sensibly felt, and we consider that it therefore may be profitable to some of our merchants to direct their attention to that portion of the western coast of Borneo opposite (but not belonging to) the English settlement of Labuan. We allude to the territory of Sarawak, now under the sovereignty of Sir Jas. Brooke—that Prince of modern adventurers, so like the chivalrous Walter Raleigh in all but his misfortunes—who, from a humble cadet in the service of the East India Company, is now despotic monarch of a large and fertile country, occupying 80 miles of sea-board, and without inland boundaries. The country over which he has sway is very rich in the trees yielding india-rubber and gutta percha gums, the latter article being exported in vast quantities to England; and as native laborers are plentiful there, and the country peaceful, there would in all probability be little difficulty in procuring an inexhaustible supply on profitable terms.

Though we are indebted to the East Indies and Carthagena, in New-Grenada, for a portion of the india rubber gum we employ in manufacture, yet Para, in Brazil, is the place from which we derive our principal supply, and the following table, derived from the most reliable sources, will show the steady increase of the last six years. Our merchants imported from Para:

In 1848	666,000	In 1851	1,896,000
In 1849	865,000	In 1852	1,439,000
In 1850	1,310,000	In 1853	2,000,000

The latter being the estimated returns by the close of the present year. A decrease will be observed in the year 1852, but this was occasioned entirely by the deficiency of the supply from that quarter, large importations from England having brought the general entries slightly above those of any former year. Small shipments have latterly been made from East Indian ports, to the extent of about 100,000 lbs., during each of the last two years, but owing to the inferiority of the article over that of Para, it is but little in demand. Carthagena sent us, in 1852, 150,000 lbs, and this year it is supposed that not less than double that quantity will be derived from the same source. Those persons, however, who are speculating there in the business of the raw material have adopted a very reprehensible practice to obtain a quicker supply, namely, that of cutting down the trees, in order to produce a quantity of sap at once, in preference to the slower process of tapping, thus not only utterly destroying the tree but producing an inferior article. This is, indeed, a practical illustration of the fable of the goose with the golden eggs!

The *Ficus Elasticus* runs up forty or sixty feet before it branches, and at double that hight is tufted with a rich foliage. The gum, which, when it exudes, is of a pure white color, and about the consistency of honey, (resembling also the poppy or milk-weed of northern latitudes,) is obtained by making an incision in the tree about an inch in width, under which are placed several clay cups to receive the droppings. These trees, which are tapped every other day, continue to yield sap for more than twenty years, and it is a singular circumstance that the oldest and most frequently tapped trees produce the richest sap: the best season for procuring the liquid being during the months of May, June, July and August. For many years nearly all the gum used in the United States was imported from Para, though the trade has now extended to the western coast of South America, where the caoutchouc is said to be abundant, and of the best quality, some of the trees yielding a very superior sap.

The Indians themselves have a rough idea of manufacturing the gum, though they accomplish it after a primitive method, yet we must not forget that to them we are originally indebted for a "notion" which has since been so amply and profitably developed at home. The milk collected is smoked, to prevent coagulation and the sap is then poured upon clay or wooden lasts, if the article to be made is a shoe, and it requires between twenty and thirty such coats to finish it fit for wear. Each coat is held over a fire or small furnace, and smoked for about half a minute—a process which gives it the dark brown color it bears when imported, as well as hardening it and rendering it less adhesive, though it is some months before it is sufficiently seasoned for service. An amusing contrast, as we shall presently see, to the expensive and complete machinery of some of our manufacturing establishments.

India rubber made its first appearance in Europe in 1736, having been introduced by some scientific French travelers, who had been exploring in South America; but no commercial advantage resulted. We hear of it again in 1791, when Dr. Priestly mentions a new gum, used for erasing pencil marks, and hence called rubber, deriving its prefix from the erroneous idea that it came from India. We cannot trace it in this country before 1820, shortly after which five hundred pairs of shoes were imported into Boston and there sold. The possibility of the adaptation of this novel substance to purposes of great utility soon impressed itself upon the minds of several enterprising men, and we accordingly find, in the subsequent years, that the advantages resulting, after numerous experiments by various persons, were visible in the many patents taken out for discoveries connected with the india rubber. First among the patentees, in priority as to date, in this country, was Comstock, of Hartford, Conn., who discovered a method of rendering the gum plastic by the use of spirits of turpentine, which reduced it to such a state of solution as to allow of its being spread on cloth and applied in other ways. This, though important, would have been comparatively valueless but for subsequent discoveries, which now followed each other in rapid succession, one of the most noteworthy being that of Nathaniel Hayward, who, after three years' patient labor, found that a combination of sulphur greatly improved the manufacture of India Rubber goods, though the full advantages of this process were not attained until the invention of the celebrated vulcanizing process, of which we shall presently have occasion to speak more fully.

Mr. Chaffee's experiments also contributed much to the value of india rubber goods, especially his establishment of the fact that lamp-black greatly improved the composition, and was the best ingredient known for enabling the rubber to stand the sun. Up to this period the application of rubber to cloth was by what was called the "flowing process," the liquid rubber being distributed over the cloth as the latter unwound from a roll upon the level wires, which extended the whole length of the factory in which Mr. Chaffee was engaged. The cloth remained for a day or two stretched on those wires to evaporate the spirits, the time of its remaining varying according to the weather. This process was so expensive, owing to the great cost of the solvents, as to prevent the manufacture of India Rubber goods being a profitable pursuit; but a complete revolution in the trade was effected by the invention, by Mr. Chaffee, of a machine by which the use of solvents was entirely dispensed with, thus effecting a saving amounting, in the present increased extent of business, to at least $500,000 annually in the use of chemicals alone! By this invention for which a patent was taken out in 1835, the cloth was coated with rubber without any solvent, and rolled up as fast as completed; and so perfect was the original machine in its action, that we understand no improvement on it has yet been made.

This, though by no means a complete list, is, we believe, a correct statement of all the most important inventions tending gradually to make the manufacture of india rubber goods commercially profitable: yet nearly all the speculations in this new branch of trade were unfortunate until the discovery of the method called the vulcanising or metallic process—an invention entailing on it so much honor, as well as profit, as to have given rise to one of the most prolonged and expensive law suits ever carried on in the United States. We need only mention the names of the rival claimants—Goodyear and Day—to recall the trial, in which the lamented Daniel Webster appeared for the plaintiff, to the recollection of the majority of our readers. Suffice it here to say that, after a most patient investigation, the decision, involving an enormous amount of capital, was given in favor of Goodyear, who now enjoys unmolested all the privileges to which the verdict entitled him. As the goods made under his patent embrace so large a proportion of all the india rubber articles manufactured in the United States, we shall describe his process more fully in detail than we deemed necessary in regard to the inventions we have above alluded to, being indebted for much of our information to Mr. Webster's speech, before the Circuit Court, during the legal investigation.

Goodyear commenced his experiments in 1834, endeavoring to find a way by which india rubber could be cleared of its gluey nature, its tendency to harden in the frost and soften in the heat; for the articles manufactured up to the year 1834, if exposed to the sun, became sticky; they could not separate after their surfaces came in contact; and if exposed to the cold, they became hard and rigid. After many years' patient trial, during which he labored under great pecuniary difficulties, amounting to positive destitution, he succeeded in perfecting his vulcanizing process, the peculiarity of which is this: If you take a compound of sulphur and rubber in a dry state, and grind and mix them together, and apply heat, the substance softens as the degree of heat increases until it reaches about 212° Fahrenheit. It was found out, that although the application of heat produced a melting effect upon this compound, rendering it more and more plastic and soft, as the degree of heat augmented; yet when that heat, going on, had got up to a certain much higher degree, its effect was the reverse of what it had been, and then the rubber composition commenced to vulcanize and harden, in fact to make metallic, the vegetable substance; in other words, the new material was *elastic metal*. Previous to this discovery, no means were known that would render rubber goods insensible to the extremes of heat and cold, as in winter the frost would stiffen them so as to make them disagreeable to wear as apparel, and in summer they would so adhere that in 1836 one Company had about $25,000 worth returned to them, all stuck together, and utterly worthless. Indeed, to such a loss were the manufacturers subject in consequence of the liability of their goods to damage from the effects of the weather, that of all the Companies in existence previous to the Goodyear discovery, many of them being started with a large amount of capital, only two (and those engaged exclusively in the making of what is known as the Providence overshoe) were covering their expenses; while the introduction of the new process is giving satisfactory employment to a very large amount of capital.

Though the rapidity with which this trade has developed itself is very remarkable, the endless variety of goods made of prepared india rubber is, if possible, still more so—all kinds of clothing, coats, jackets, capes, leggings, caps, ladies' aprons; bags for all purposes, including saddle-bags; carriage cloths, hospital sheeting, tarpaulins, table covers, and horse blankets; wagon aprons knapsacks, horse boots; beds for inflation; cushions, life preservers, anchor buoys, pontoons for bridges, cow-milkers, tents, portable boats, water tanks, fire-buckets, gun and pistol cases, hose, machine-belting, boots and shoes, whips, gloves, steam-packing, door-springs, toys, and a host of other articles "too numerous "to mention." Indeed, there appears to be no end to the diversity of uses to which india rubber is now devoted, and it would be difficult to say whether childhood or maturity has gained most by its introduction. For the former, there is prepared a grand and indestructible collection of zoological specimens, some quite unknown to naturalists, and a sight of which would have been the premature death of Buffon, had he existed in this elastic age—the colors of the objects being especially amazing; also babies perpetually crying, (far too lifelike,) dolls of all tinges of complexion, from the "swart "Æthiop" to the pure rose and lily, churches and cottages, frogs and watches, whistles and rattles; while for the adult are snuff-boxes and walking-canes which would have been the envy of Beau Brummel, and excellent hair-combs for ladies, which have other merits besides their novelty. India rubber beds to contain hot or cold water, for the use of invalids, are also made; while the same substance is usefully employed for the manufacture of articles required by the surgeon and other professional men. It is also being made available for educational purposes, a recent novelty being a portable globe, with a mouth piece to eject and emit air—an admirable contrivance on account of its cheapness and durability, two qualities hitherto unattainable for the same article. India rubber is likewise used as a substitute for paper in the printing of engravings and maps. The latter is mentioned, among other things, in an excellent essay in *Dickens's Household Words*, throughout the whole of which ample justice is conceded to the superiority of this branch of American manufactures, and as it mentions several articles not met with by us, we will quote it at length, recommending its entire perusal to persons interested in the subject:

"Many persons will remember the excellently printed india rubber maps brought over to us by the American Exhibitors: thin, light, smooth, but amazingly strong, these maps are suggestive of other useful applications. The same kind of india rubber felt is also printed as a paper hanging for damp walls, with very serviceable effect. The felt is itself somewhat thin; but means have been invented for applying it to the surface of a kind of wooden wadding, thereby producing a thick, warm waterproof, but light and cheap material for out-door clothing. We know little of this in England, but across the Atlantic many a cozy garment of the kind may be seen. The felt, instead of being applied as a coating to something else, may itself be coated with a woven material; if this woven material be a printed cotton, then we have at once a small table cover produced. On the other hand, if a carpet be required on a floor so damp as to rot an ordinary worsted production, make a layer of thick woolen down or flock, cover it with a layer of the India Rubber felt, and we are rewarded with a warm, cheap carpet. By embracing a strong hempen canvas between two layers of the felt, a water proof sailcloth, or tarpaulin, or rickcloth, or tent of great strength and toughness is produced. Of some such redoubtable substance are made the life-boats, insubmersible boats, and pontoons, which are much more familiarly known in America than in England; in the Mexican war the carriage of the military equipage was greatly aided by the use of boat-bridges made of india rubber canoes, and inflated with air."

An experiment is now being made in this city as to the availability of india rubber for a sheathing to the telegraphic wire for sub-marine purposes, the enormous expense of the gutta-percha tubings now in use in the three submerged lines from England having originally suggested the idea, and the probability of a requirement of something similar here, in the proposed sub-soil telegraph in contemplated railways having set our quick-witted men at work to prepare a plan ready for the occasion. A great saving, it is supposed, will be effected merely in the less cost of transportation of the rubber sheathing over the bulky gutta-percha system, the former not being more than an inch in circumference, perfectly impervious to wet and unaffected by climate.

Among a few of the other uses not before enumerated, a preparation of rubber is applied as a substitute for the ordinary paper in bank bills, being in our opinion a great improvement, as though of a very thin fabric, it is not so liable to tear, and will wear much longer without being defaced. It is, besides, much used for shirt-collar fastenings, suspenders, garters, belts, watch-guards and glove-tops. In London, an experiment of its efficiency for a road paving was made, in the court-yard of the Admiralty, but it was found ineffectual. It was also at one time considerably in vogue for the purpose of procuring "noise-"less wheels;" we are not aware that it succeeded, but if so, it has of late years been so very quiet as not to make sufficient noise to keep us aware of its existence, and we believe it is no longer used for that object.

But perhaps there is scarcely any purpose for which india rubber has been better adapted than in its application as springs for railway cars. These springs, which are remarkable for their simplicity, consist solely of a vulcanized india rubber cylinder, surrounded by iron bands—its size depending on the weight it will have to bear. It possesses great advantages over the metal springs in its insensibility to change of climate, the extremes of heat and cold not affecting it. The best test of its value may be learned from the circumstance that the New-England Car Spring Company, which, however, has a monopoly of the sale, and transacts business with nearly every railway in the States, consumes annually upward of 400,000 pounds weight of the raw material, using only for the manufacture of railway car springs.

Desirous of witnessing the process of the manufacture of India Rubber according to the most recent improvements, we went a few days ago to inspect one of the factories of the Union India Rubber Co. situated at Harlem, and safely accomplishing the crossing of the bridge at 109th-st., for which we inwardly returned thanks, shortly arrived at the factory, and after stating our object to the courteous manager, whose "native polish" could not possibly be increased by any length of residence in the refined foreign capital from which he has lately returned, were favored with his company over the premises and enjoyed the advantage of his explanation of the various processes and the uses of the different machinery. In this establishment, which we selected as being the most extensive in the immediate neighborhood of New-York, between 200 and 250 hands are constantly employed, about 120 of whom are women, 40 boys or apprentices and the remainder men. The workshops are large, well lighted and ventilated, and this, with the air, pure and invigorating, and the quite moderate hours of labor, from 7 to 6, gives to the artizans a much more healthful appearance than is visible in those working in the confined and ill ventilated factories located in the city. The earnings of the people in this business vary from $2 50 to $6 per week for the girls, boys and apprentices; while the men gain from $5 to $10 or $12, the first-named price being paid to the mere laborers, and the higher rates to the skilled artizans, according to their abilities.

The following is the method of manufacturing in most general use in this country: The rubber, as imported, being received at the factory in the form of sheets, bottles or shoes, is first cut into small pieces, cleansed and spread out to dry. The next process is the operation of grinding, which is performed by forcing these pieces of rubber between heavy iron rollers or hollow cylinders heated by steam, a compound of sulphur, whitelead, &c., being added to aid the vulcanizing, which is now commenced. After undergoing this operation, it is again submitted to a further similar process, but in a machine where the rollers are more closely adjusted, causing the rubber (which in leaving the previous machine has the appearance of a shapeless mass) to assume, after undergoing a number of revolutions, a more ductile and workable character. The next process is spreading it on cloth, which is performed on a huge calendering machine, the cloth being so placed as to receive a supply of the rubber compound as it revolves on the heated cylinders from the men who are in attendance to feed it. The cloth leaves this machine coated on one side with rubber, perfectly smooth and even on the surface, but soft and sticky. In this state it is taken into the work-room, where the young women are employed, and is there cut into garments, life preservers, bags, &c., the edges being pressed together to form the seams. The next process, after dusting them with sulphur, is placing them in a steam boiler, and there subjecting them to a high degree of heat, thus finishing the vulcanizing. The goods, after undergoing a thorough washing, and drying in the open air, are now ready for sale.

The cost of the machinery alone in the establishment we visited, is estimated at $40,000, and is capable of coating from 2,500 to 3,000 yards of cloth per day, which would be worth about $1,000, though the actual value of the goods produced at the factory, including manual labor, is about $35,000 a month.

The total value of all the india rubber goods made in the United States approaches ten millions of dollars per annum, and this enormous trade may be said to have sprung up since the year 1844, as previous to that date there were but very few manufactories working at a profit. The principal States extensively engaged in this trade are New-York New-Jersey, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, investing a capital of at least $5,000,000, and giving employment to many thousands of persons. In some particular goods the consumption is immense: for instance, in the article of shoes, 4,000,000 pairs are annually made, the Hayward Company alone producing 3,000 pairs a day, or 900,000 a year. Another Company, in Boston, principally engaged in the manufacture of belting, produces to the value of $300,000 a year, employing from 300 to 500 hands. Springfield and Roxbury manufacture principally webbing and Congress boots and shoes. Rhode Island has one extensive factory, while in Connecticut are several, finding labor for nearly 2,000 artisans, and investment for $1,000,000. Three of these are engaged in making shoes, the others in clothing, steam-packing, hose, &c. In New-Jersey are four manufactories—three of shoes and one of miscellaneous goods—with fully 1,000 hands and $1,000,000 capital. On Staten Island is a considerable manufactory, consisting principally of dolls, toys and fancy articles: about $50,000 are invested in this concern. Nearly all of those, together with the New-England Car Spring Company, at New-York, and the Union India Rubber Company, at Harlem, of which we have already spoken, are all worked under Goodyear's patents, so that the immense importance to the parties concerned of the decision in the celebrated india rubber trial is very apparent, and becomes more so when we consider that the trade is yet only in its early infancy, as there appears to be no limit to the purposes for which this substance may be made available. The prophetic words of Mr. Webster bid fair to be realised in the course of a very few years: "I look," said he, "to the time when the ships that traverse the ocean "will have india rubber sails, when the sheathing of "ships will have this metallic vegetable production, and "be composed of it. I see, or think I see, thousands of "other uses to which this extraordinary product is to be "applied; and, if I understand the matter, the uses to "which it has hitherto been appropriated are as dust, "and the dust of the balance, in proportion to the other "uses now beginning to be developed."

The reputation for excellence of the American manufactured india rubber goods is so widely extended as to lead to a large export of these articles to all parts of the world, England being a considerable consumer, although a patent protecting a mode of manufacture similar to Goodyear's vulcanizing process is in operation there, having been taken out by Mr. Hancock, who appears to have been experimenting with the same object and at the same time as Goodyear, though the priority of discovery is conceded to the latter manufacturer.

The approaching Exhibition in New York will be the means of introducing to the public a number of articles of india rubber manufacture, for which that substance is not generally known to be applied, and for which it has never hitherto been supposed available; and it is but reasonable to conclude that the experience of two years since the close of the London Industrial Exhibition of 1851 will be thoroughly demonstrated in the amicable international rivalry which is shortly to be recommenced on our shores. We have no fear but that the same genius which earned the Council Medal for our countryman at the Hyde Park Crystal Palace, will enable them to maintain and improve upon that earlier stage, in this department of industry in the face of the much greater rivalry that they are likely to encounter here, in consequence of the attention that has lately been bestowed upon the manufacture abroad.

AMERICAN CLOCK-MAKING.

Yankee Clocks are proverbially the cheapest and best in the world, mainly because circumstances have enabled American ingenuity and skill to apply themselves in this direction, undepressed by Foreign rivalry or competition. There is no essential reason why we should not beat the world in Watches as well as Clocks; but a few happy thoughts gave us a start in Clocks which we have never lost, and which had no parallel in regard to Watches. Had the manufacture of Steel, or Hardware, or Musical Instruments, obtained thirty or forty years ago such a foothold among us as that of Clocks, and Edge Tools, and Nails, actually did, we have no doubt that it would have been equally prosperous at this day, and distinguished the world over for the cheapness and excellence of its products.

Mr. Henry Terry contributes to *The Waterbury American*, (Conn.) an account of the origin and progress of Clock-Making in this country, (in correction of "A "History of Yankee Clock-Making," by Dr. Wm. A. Alcott, in *The Boston Traveller*,) which we find deeply interesting and instructive. We have felt constrained to alter it somewhat by cutting out the special allusions to Dr. Alcott's essay; but have followed Mr. Terry's statement as closely as seemed practicable, omitting nothing essential to the vindication of his father's just claims to the first rank among American Clock-makers. He says:

Eli Terry commenced business in clock-making and watch repairing in Plymouth, (then Northbury,) Conn., A. D. 1793. He came from East Windsor, Conn., to this place (Waterbury,) sixty years ago, and had before that time been engaged in making clocks, and had been instructed in the art, as it was then known and practiced, in East Windsor by Daniel Burnap, and in East Hartford by a Mr. Cheney. Some of the best American Clocks were made by this Mr. Burnap. A few of them are to be found now, said to be seventy years old and more, and are not a whit inferior in workmanship to the best English clocks that have been imported from that time to this day, and far superior to many of the present day, with a more costly exterior. At that time (A. D. 1793,) when Mr. Terry commenced business in Plymouth, Timothy Barnes of Litchfield, St. Farms, James Harrison of Waterbury, and Gideon Roberts of Bristol, were known as clock makers. Wooden clocks, calculated for a long pendulum and case, were sold at this time for £4, or $13. When the clock was made with a brass dial, and a dial for seconds and the moon's age, the price was $15.

The price of brass clocks was from £10 to £15, or $33 to $50. This was the price without a case. The case might be procured at a price varying from $5 to $30, according to the quality and materials of which it was made; so that the entire cost of a wooden clock with the case, was from $18 to $48, and for brass clocks, $38 and $80. He made clocks both of wood and brass in the then ordinary way, having a hand-engine for cutting the teeth or cogs of the wheels and pinions, and using a foot lathe for doing the turning. It is probable he used a knife, as well as many other tools then in use in doing some part of the work, but that the different parts of the clock "*were cut out with the penknife*" is a tale of many years' growth, having no foundation, and ought not to be stereotyped as part of the history of clock-making in this country. So limited was the demand for clocks at this time, and so inadequate his means for making them, that after finishing three or four, he was obliged to go out with them on horseback, and put them up, where they had been previously engaged or sold. His usual way was to put one forward of the saddle on which he rode, one behind, and one on each side in his portmanteau. During this day of small things, however, there was an attempt at something more. As early as the year 1797, he procured a patent for what he then supposed to be an important improvement in clocks. This patent was for a new construction of an equation clock, showing the difference between the mean and apparent time. The patent is now in the possession of the writer, as executor of his estate. It was obtained during the early part of John Adams's administration, and bears his autograph signature, together with that of Timothy Pickering, then Secretary of State, and Charles Lee, Attorney General. This invention proved to be a useful one to him, in no way save the discipline he acquired by it; for the secret of money making at that time, as well as the present day, was not in the manufacturing so expensive clocks as this kind must necessarily have been. The greater demand was, and still is, for a less costly article.

The business was prosecuted by him in this old way until about the year 1802 or 1803, when finding he could sell his clocks without being an itinerant himself, he made provision for manufacturing them more extensively. He erected a small building on a small stream, where he had the benefit of water-power and additional machinery in doing some portion of the work. At this time he made calculations for manufacturing clocks by the thousand. It was regarded by some at the time as so extravagant an undertaking as to subject him to considerable ridicule. A conceited wag of the town offered to become the purchaser of the last one of the thousand, thinking he would never be able to finish that number. The clocks, however, were soon finished, and the waggish gentleman learned that he was not only deficient in judgment but poorly endowed with wit.

We come now to the era when a grist mill was converted into a factory for making clocks. About 1807-8, Mr. Terry made still more extensive arrangements for making clocks. He had obtained a contract with the Rev. Edward Porter, a Congregational minister and ex-pastor of the Congregational Church and Society of Waterbury, and Levi Porter, his partner, for making four thousand clocks. It took a considerable part of the first year to fit up the machinery, most of the second year to finish the first thousand clocks, and the third to complete the remaining three thousand. The success attending this enterprise was such as to give a new impulse to clock-manufacturing as a money-making business, and was so successfully brought to a close that the idea of retiring from business was entertained, although he was still a young man. He accordingly sold the factory, machinery, and other property there, to Mr. Seth Thomas and Silas Hoadley, who had been employed during the three years in making these clocks—and then removed to his former residence, in the central part of the town. The business had at this time been commenced in Winsted by Ryley Whiting, and had been revived in Bristol, Waterbury, and elsewhere. Asa Hopkins, a man residing in the Parish of Northfield, town of Litchfield, had erected a factory on the Naugatuck River. This Mr. Hopkins was a man of considerable mechanical skill, and a successful manufacturer of clocks. He obtained a patent about the year 1813-14, on a machine for cutting the cogs or teeth of the wheels. This invention, or improvement, was for the use and introduction of three arbors or mandrels, by means of which one row of teeth on a number of wheels were finished by one operation; a machine still in use, although superseded at the time by the construction of an engine by Mr. Terry, with only one mandrel, which was used for many years afterwards, and has not been abandoned to this day. Messrs. Thomas & Hoadley prosecuted the business as partners for three years or more, when they dissolved—Mr. Hoadley retaining the factory and other property. Heman Clark, who had been an apprentice to Mr. Terry, built a factory about the year 1811, in the place now known as Plymouth Hollow, where he pursued the business two or more years. Mr. Thomas purchased this factory in December, 1813, where he again embarked in this calling, and where he has been eminently successful in making clocks, and is at this time, at an advanced age in life, extensively engaged in this and other business. Mr. Hoadley has done less business but has been successful, and more so than many who subsequently engaged in this occupation.

In A. D. 1814, the short or shelf clock was devised, made and introduced by Mr. Terry, who had then removed to a site on the Naugatuck River, where he commenced the making of these clocks. Mr. Thomas being then engaged in making the common or old-fashioned clocks, and also, to some extent, the new shelf or mantle clock. A patent was procured for this improvement in clocks by Mr. Terry, A. D. 1816. For a few years from this time, the old or long clocks were made by Mr. Thomas and others, but gradually the demand declined, as the demand increased for the others. The patent was a source of no little trouble, strife and litigation. Patents were not unfrequently granted at that time with very imperfect specifications, the inventors not being aware of the importance of an exact definition of their claim independent of a general description. An inventor, however meritorious, could be easily defeated in his rights. A patentee in those days needed a more thorough acquaintance with the laws relating to patents than with anything pertaining to the art or improvement which might be the subject of his patent. So far as the writer has the means of judging, the remark holds true to this day. The less meritorious are as likely to derive pecuniary benefit from a monopoly of this kind as the inventor most worthy and deserving. That day of strife, however, has gone by. The writer was familiar with all the difficulties and conflicting claims of the contending parties, and knows full well that the improvement made by Mr. Terry, at this time and subsequently, marked distinctly a new era in clock-making, and laid the foundation for a lucrative business, by which many have gained their thousands, however willing or unwilling they may be to acknowledge it. Some of the important improvements which should have been secured by this patent are in use to this day, and cannot be dispensed with in the making of low-priced clocks, nor, indeed, with any convenience, mantle clocks. The mode or method of escapement universally adopted at this time in all common shelf clocks was his plan or invention. The construction of the clock so as to allow the carrying of the weights each side of the movement or wheels of the clock to the top of the case, bringing the pendulum, crown wheel and verge in front, the dial wheels between the plates, making the pendulum accessible by removing the dial only, were his arrangement and invention. [These things cannot now be dispensed with, even in the clocks driven by a spring, as the motive power, much less in those carried by weights. Millions of them have been made during the last ten years, the precise model of the one (in these particulars) now in the possession of one of his family, and made by him in 1814.] No clock either in this or any foreign country was ever made previous to this time with the weights carried each side the movement the whole length of the case, the dial wheels inside the plates, the pendulum, crown wheel, verge or pallet together in front of the other wheels. This mode of escapement is one of great value still, and will probably never be abandoned so long as low-priced clocks are needed.

It is true, *time-pieces* of a small size were imported many years before. It is also true that time-pieces were made in Boston, (Willard's time pieces,) and are made to this day with one weight back of the movement, and moving below it; but this and the imported smaller size, were mere *time-pieces*, that is, destitute of the parts striking the hour, and had none of the *three* peculiarities above mentioned, so universally adopted at this time.

Chauncey Jerome commenced his career in clock-making at a later period, gaining his first knowledge of the business under the tuition and encouragement of Mr. Terry. He commenced some part of the clock business in Plymouth as early as the year 1821. He afterward removed to Bristol, where he embarked in making clocks introducing clock-cases of different sizes, and clocks adapted to the new forms of cases made. At a still later period, and according to the recollection of the writer, not far from the year 1837, he introduced, or did much toward the introduction of the most common form of the brass clock now in vogue. The pinion leaves or cogs are made of round wire. This is a cheap way of making pinions, never before practiced, whatever may be said as to the quality and durability of the clock so made. The present form of the brass count wheel, so divided as to allow the stop dog to drop between the teeth, and being driven by a pin in the fly-wheel, Mr. Jerome claims as his improvement, and for which he obtained letters patent. The success attending the prosecution of his business after his removal to New-Haven, a few years since, and his reverses of fortune need not be rehearsed.

In justice, however, it should be here stated, that some anterior to, and others soon after the period Mr. Jerome commenced business in Bristol, embarked in this occupation, to wit: Mark Leavenworth, of Waterbury; Samuel Terry, afterward removed to Bristol, and Eli Terry, Jr., of Plymouth; Chauncey Boardman, Ives, Brewster and others in Bristol, filling the market with a great variety of clocks, of an exterior in every conceivable form, until some of those who had immediately succeeded Mr. Terry were ready to abandon the business, and did so on account of the very reduced price of clocks, and the interminable credit it was then customary to give their customers. The writer was one of this number, who had until then very little acquaintance with any other business, having been a witness to all the improvements in clocks, and the machinery for making the same, from the time the shelf clock was first introduced, in the year 1814, to this period, or the year 1836.

Mr. Terry took his sons into partnership as they became of suitable age, and in 1833 withdrew, leaving the business in their hands. Though no longer interested in trade nor desirous of gain for the last twenty years of his life, he never abandoned the work-shop. He was during many years engaged in making now and then a church-clock, a few watch-regulators, and the like. The church-clocks were made in three independent parts or nearly so, the connection between each being such as not to be injuriously affected by the other. The time-keeping part was of the ordinary size, and moved by a separate weight. The striking part was moved by one large weight, and the dial-wheels by another, while that of the time-keeping part weighed only three or four pounds. The dial wheels, hands or pointers, moved only once in a minute. Church-clocks constructed in this way, were thus rendered as perfect time-keepers, and as little affected by wind or storm, as any house-clock or watch regulator could be. These clocks were made with compensation pendulum rods, of his own design, and the escapement after a model of his own. During these years of comparative leisure, his time was mostly spent in making this description of clocks, chiefly in reference to accuracy as time-keepers, making a variety of regulators with new forms of escapements and compensation rods. No year elapsed up to the time of his last sickness, without some new design in clock-work, specimens of which are now abundant. These things he did to the neglect, many times, of taking suitable care of what property he had before accumulated. Still, he distributed to his family, and gave away to different objects during the latter part of his life, not less than $100,000, retaining at the same time an amount of available property sufficient to afford him an annual income of $3,000. This he regarded as sufficient for all his temporal wants. When commencing business in early life, he never once indulged the thought of accumulating one tenth the amount. He died the last of February, 1852.

It is unnecessary to add much in regard to clock-making, as it is prosecuted at this time. It is scarcely to be credited that half a million of shelf clocks are now annually made in Connecticut, and places not far distant. We have reason, however, to believe that this estimate is not an exaggeration.

The improvements in machinery, and the skill attained in manufacturing, gradually reduced the price of clocks. Thus it is, that a brass clock which formerly cost from $38 to $80, is superseded by a more neat and convenient shelf clock and afforded and sold at the very low prices of $5, $3, and $2. Some may suppose these clocks to be a poor article, and not as durable. This may be true of many of the clocks now manufactured, still it is equally true, that a clock as good and durable can now be made and sold at a profit at these low prices. What is true, also, of the entire clock, is well illustrated by the reduction in price, of several of the separate parts of the clock, as now made. Such parts as at one time cost ten, twenty, and even fifty cents to each clock, are now manufactured for one fourth the amount, and in some instances for less than a tithe of what they formerly cost. Spring clocks are made more extensively than they were a few years since. The springs for one clock, that cost, only six or seven years ago, seventy-five cents or more, are now made and sold for eight and seven cents. It is proper to add here, that this description of springs cannot be imported, nor is the secret of manufacturing them known in foreign countries.

These facts show the folly of any slight experimenting to ascertain what can or what cannot be manufactured in this country. President Wayland, in his Elements in Political Economy, virtually denies the right of a Government to impose discriminating and prohibitory duties, but, says he: "A Government can do much, by experimental manufactures, which might show, from time to time, what branches of manufacture could profitably be introduced into a country, and how they might be successfully conducted."

Now, then, suppose the United States Government had, sixty years ago, set up an "experimental" workshop, and undertaken the business of manufacturing a few clocks in Philadelphia, and afterward in Washington, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the "manufacture could be "profitably introduced into this country;" how many Government-paid operatives with some distinguished Governmental nabob to superintend them, think you, it would have taken, to have kept pace with Connecticut enterprise and ingenuity in manufacturing clocks?

In conclusion, it should be stated, that these statistics are given for the purpose of preservation. The writer is aware that other branches of American industry, are equally deserving attention—that the improvement attained in other pursuits, has been as great, the skill as apparent, the progress as rapid, and the results still more surprising.

Yours, truly, HENRY TERRY.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE—June. L. Scott & Co.

The June number of this periodical appears in excellent season, and consists of an unusually readable miscellany. We find in it the following poem by our associate, BAYARD TAYLOR, which has not before appeared in print:

KALIMANDJARO.*

I.

Hail to thee, Monarch of African mountains!
Remote, inaccessible, silent, and lone,
Who from the heart of the tropical fervors,
Liftest to heaven thine alien snows,
Feeding for ever the fountains that make thee
Father of Nile and Creator of Egypt!

II.

The years of the world are engraved on thy forehead;
Time's morning blushed red on thy first fallen snows;
Yet lost in the wilderness, nameless, unnoted,
Of man unbeholden, thou wert not till now.
Knowledge alone is the being of Nature,
Giving a soul to her manifold features,
Lighting through paths of the primitive darkness
The footsteps of Truth and the vision of Song.
Knowledge has borne thee anew to Creation,
And long baffled Time at thy baptism rejoices.
Take, then, a name, and be filled with existence,
Yea, be exultant in sovereign glory,
While from the hand of the wandering poet
Drops the first garland of song at thy feet.

III.

Floating alone on the flood of thy making,
Through Africa's mystery, silence and fire,
Lo! in my palm, like the Eastern enchanter,
I dip from the waters a magical mirror,
And thou art revealed to my purified vision.
I see thee supreme, in the midst of thy co-mates,
Standing alone 'twixt the Earth and the Heavens,
Heir of the Sunset and Herald of Morn.
Upheld on thy knees and thy shoulders of granite,
Zone above zone, like the steps of a temple,
The climates of Earth are displayed, as an index
Giving the scope of the Book of Creation.
There in the gorges that widen, descending
From cloud and from cold into summer eternal,
Gather the threads of the ice-gendered fountains,
Gather to riotous torrents of crystal,
And giving each shelvy recess where they dally
The blooms of the North and its evergreen turfage,
Leap to the land of the lion and lotus!
There, in the wondering airs of the Tropics,
Shivers the aspen, still dreaming of cold;
There stretches the oak, from the loftiest ledges,
His arms to the far away lands of his brothers,
And the pine-tree looks down on his rival, the palm.

IV.

Bathed in the tenderest purple of distance,
Tinted and shadowed by pencils of air,
Thy battlements hang o'er the slopes and the forests,
Seats of the gods in the limitless ether,
Looming sublimely aloft and afar.
Above them, like folds of imperial ermine,
Sparkle the snow fields that furrow thy forehead—
Desolate realms, inaccessible, silent,
Chasms and caverns where Day is a stranger,
Garners where storeth his treasures the Thunder,
The Lightning his falchion, his arrows the Hail.

V.

Sovereign Mountain! thy brothers give welcome—
They, the baptized and the crowned of ages,
Watch-towers of Continents, altars of Earth—
Welcome thee now to their mighty assembly.
Mont Blanc, in the roar of his mad avalanches,
Hails thy accession; superb Orizava,
Belted with beech and ensandaled with palm;
Chimborazo, the lord of the regions of noonday,
Mingle their sounds in magnificent chorus,
With greeting august from the pillars of Heaven,
Who in the urns of the Indian Ganges,
Filter the snows of their sacred dominions,
Unmarked with a footprint, unseen but of God.

VI.

Lo! unto each is the seal of his lordship,
Nor questioned the right that his majesty giveth:
Each in his awful supremacy forces
Worship and reverence, wonder and joy.
Absolute all, yet in dignity varied,
None has a claim to the honors of story,
Or the superior splendors of song,
Greater than thou, in thy mystery mantled—
Thou, the sole monarch of African mountains,
Father of Nile and Creator of Egypt!

BAYARD TAYLOR.

On the White Nile, Central Africa, January, 1852.

*Kalimandjaro is the name of the great snow-mountain discovered in Central Africa in 1850, by Dr. Krapf. It is in latitude 3° S., and is supposed by geographers to contain the sources of the White Nile.

SECOND LATIN BOOK. By ALBERT HARKNESS, A. M. 12mo pp. 362. D. Appleton & Co.

This is a Latin Reader and a book of Exercises in the construction, analysis, and reconstruction of Latin sentences. The Reader consists of extracts from Roman and Grecian History, embracing some of the most interesting facts and incidents in each, and is well adapted to interest the learner. The Exercises commence with the essential elements of the simple Latin sentence, the subject and predicate. These are afterwards expanded, step by step, by their different modifiers into the complex sentence; and lastly the simple and complex sentences are combined into the various forms of the compound. The rules for translation at the end of the work are worthy the careful study of the scholar, and will give him valuable aid in translating the Latin free from all idiomatic forms, into pure and elegant English.

RHYMES WITH REASON AND WITHOUT. By B. P. SHILLABER. 12mo. pp. 336. Boston: Abel Tompkins, and B. B. Mussey & Co.

The author of this volume is said to be the "Mrs. Partington" of *The Boston Morning Post*, in which journal most of these poems made their first appearance. They are principally of a humorous character, and often run into broad farce. Several of the parodies on well-known authors are not bad specimens of that kind of wit. The prevailing tone of fun and frolic is softened by occasional dashes of sentiment and pathos which exhibit true feeling. The work is introduced with a modest preface which must disarm criticism.

THE MESSIAH IN MOSES AND THE PROPHETS. By ELEAZER LORD. 12 mo. pp. 333. Charles Scribner.

The purpose of this work is to show that the Divine manifestations recorded in the Old Testament were made by the person of Jesus Christ, who is the same that in the Hebrew oracles is often called Jehovah and Elohim, and is also designated by official titles as the Messiah, the Messenger, Adonai, and the like. The question is discussed with a great variety of sacred and secular learning, and in its progress elicits much curious theological speculation.

DISCOURSES ADDRESSED TO MIXED CONGREGATIONS. By JOHN HENRY NEWMAN. 12mo pp. 352. Boston; Patrick Donahoe. Sold by Edward Dunigan & Brother.

The fame of the author as a distinguished abjurer of Protestantism, gives an interest to these pulpit addresses apart from their intrinsic character. The liveliness and terseness of their style, and their profusion of racy illustrations, make them attractive specimens of homiletical discourse.

MEMORIALS OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS. By the Rev. C. B. TAYLER. 12mo. pp. 395. Harper & Brothers.

A contribution to the romance of English ecclesiastical history, comprising the record of visits to various celebrated shrines of Episcopal martyrs. The author writes in an animated, but too florid style, and with an ardent attachment to the principles and memories of the Anglican church.

THE LEPER; AND OTHER POEMS. By Mrs. REBEKAH HYNEMAN. 12mo. pp. 215. A. Hart.

A volume of poetry by an adopted member of the Society of Friends, chiefly on topics of a religious cast. It betrays a high degree of literary culture, if not of poetic inspiration, though many of the pieces are above mediocrity.

THE STAR IN THE DESERT. By the Author of "A Trip to Cuba & Sunbeam." 12mo. pp. 118. James Munroe & Co.

Another charming story from a pen, which has attained a beautiful fame for the sweetness and purity of its productions.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF INFIDELITY, by Rev. GEORGE STANLEY FABER is republished by William Gowans, with the addition of ROBERT HALL's celebrated DISCOURSE ON MODERN INFIDELITY, and a CATALOGUE OF WORKS ON THE EVIDENCES OF REVEALED RELIGION.

A new edition of the spirited Temperance novel MAPLETON, or MORE WORK for the MAINE LAW, has been published by Jenks, Hinckling & Swan, Boston, and is sold by Robert B. Collins in this City.

H. Long & Brother have issued a reprint of the popular English novel, HARRY COVERDALE'S COURTSHIP, by the author of "Frank Farleigh."

DEATH BY RAILROAD AT MORRISANIA.

Verdict of the Coroner's Jury.

In the Case of Thomas Low, killed at Upper Morrisania, on Tuesday last, at 8 o'clock A. M., by the New-Haven 7 o'clock train.

VERDICT.—The jury in the above case declare on their oaths that the deceased came to his death by being run over by one of the engines of the New-Haven Railroad Company, while running at a speed of twenty five miles an hour—said speed, under the circumstances, being *nothing less than downright recklessness*—although, perhaps, full caution was not exercised by deceased. They farther find that the ordinary signal or station whistle was blown by said engine, but *no whistle* given to break up, or short, quick *alarm-whistle of danger*, or to clear the track. The Jury strongly censure the Company and its agents for the *criminal carelessness and recklessness* in not sounding the *alarm whistle* and also the one to *break up*; and also strongly censure the usual custom of all through trains, of both the New-Haven and Harlem Companies, in running them at so great a speed through stations at a time when other trains are on said stations delivering and receiving passengers.

List of Patents

Issued from the United States Patent Office for the week ending June 14, 1853.

[Carefully prepared for The N. Y. Tribune.]

Charles B. Fitch, of Galena, Ill., for Improvement in Mode of Cutting Teams. Dated June 14, 1853.

Wm. G. Hewitt, of Williamsburg, Pa., for Improvement in Harvesters of Grain and Grass. Dated June 14, 1853.

Sherman S. Jewett and Francis H. Root, of Buffalo, N. Y., for Improvement in Stoves. Dated June 14, 1853. Ante-dated Dec. 14, 1852.

Harvey March, of Lebanon, N. H., for Improvement in Mop Heads. Dated June 14, 1853.

George F. Muntz, Jr., of Birmingham, England, for Improvement in the Manufacture of Metal Tubes. Dated June 14, 1853. Patented in England, May 8, 1852.

Lea Pusey, of Patterson, Pa., for Improvement in Self-waiting Dining Tables. Dated June 14, 1853.

Fergus Purden, of Baltimore, Md., for Improvement in Mortising Machines. Dated June 14, 1853.

Alexander A. Sampson, of New-Orleans, La., for Improvement in Brick Machines. Dated June 14, 1853.

E. H. Smith, of New-York, N. Y., for Improvement in Copying Presses. Dated June 14, 1853.

John H. Sturgis, of New-York, N. Y., for Improvement in Type-casting Machines. Dated June 14, 1853.

Giles F. Filley, of St. Louis, Mo., for Improvement in Cooking Stoves. Dated June 14, 1853.

Jas. M. Brookfield and Ephraim V. White, of Honesdale, Pa., (and Jacob Fastz, having been decided to be a joint inventor with said White,) the said Fastz and White, assignors to Andrew K. Hay and James M. Brookfield, for Improvement in Manufacturing Glass. Dated June 14, 1853.

John L. Kingsley, of New-York, N. Y., for Improvement in Moulding Gutta Percha Stereotype Plates. Dated June 14, 1853.

John J. Greenough, of Boston, Mass., for Improvement in Manufacture of Plate Glass. Dated June 14, 1853.

REISSUES.

Patrick S. Devlan, of Reading Pa., for Improved Lubricating Compound. Patented Jan. 16, 1849. Reissued June 14, 1853.

James A. Bowie and Charles Carr, of Philadelphia, Pa., Assignees of Robert B. Goodyear, of same place, for Improvement in Apparatus for Operating Shuttle-boxes of Looms. Patented March 13, 1849. Ante-dated Sept. 13, 1848. Reissued June 14, 1853.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—This forenoon the large brick building at the corner of Charles and Cambridge sts. was set on fire. The flames spread with such rapidity that the occupants were obliged to flee for their lives, saving but a few articles, and the building was in a very short time completely destroyed. The building was owned by the Coolidge heirs, and was occupied by Mr. Benj Simmons, who had in the building a large amount of machinery for the grinding of coffee and also of grain. His loss is $3,000 to $4,000; $1,000 insurance. The other occupants were Van Wick & Co., who run planing and moulding machines. All their valuable machinery was burned, a loss of $2,000 to $3,000, with but little if any insurance. Mr. F. Bragg also occupied a portion of the premises with leather rolling and slitting machines, which were all destroyed. The loss is said to be insured. John Coolidge, sash-maker, and John Heaton, valise-maker, in the same building, met with some loss. Mr. Coolidge also had a quantity of lumber burned. The flames spread across Charles st. and partially destroyed a stable occupied by Chamberlin & Co., and owned by the city. The total loss is probably from $14,000 to $15,000, of which less than one half is insured. [Bost. Trav., 15th.

The Editor of *The Lafayette Journal* proposes to bind up a volume containing a copy of each newspaper published in Indiana, as a contribution to the New-York Crystal Palace Exhibition. We regard the suggestion as a good one, and should be glad to see it adopted by every State in the whole Union. A copy of every American newspaper will constitute a curious volume, and one of some magnitude also. [Richmond (Va.) Enquirer.

The Industrial League of this State has employed the services of Dr. Rutherford as a Lecturer, for the purpose of traveling through the State and lecturing in behalf of the establishment, at some future day, of an Institution devoted to the interests of the industrial classes. [Lewiston (Ill.) Republican.

A man named Richmond was arrested and confined at Milwaukie on suspicion of being the murderer of Patrick Quinn. The testimony was *strong* against the prisoner as being the murderer, but fortunately rum was *stronger*, as it was clearly shown that Richmond was so deadly drunk at the time the murder was committed, as to relieve him from any suspicion. Richmond intends to give up liquor-drinking in future.

A man named Benj. W. French was arrested in Albany on Monday on charge of passing counterfeit money. Several counterfeit bills were found in his possession, and he made a full confession of his guilt. Albany appears to be an unfortunate place for counterfeiters.

A SENATOR CHASED AS A THIEF.—A party in Georgia recently pursued Mr. Robert Toombs several miles, under the impression that he had stolen the horse and buggy he was riding with. Mr. Toombs is a U. S. Senator.

A young man named Lessefs was recently killed in a duel near New Orleans. His antagonist, whose named is not mentioned, made his escape. The parties were both under 21 years of age.

A man named H. B. Wilson has been arrested at Raleigh, N. C., charged with whipping a slave woman to death.

CITY ITEMS.

ENTERTAINMENTS, &c., THIS EVENING.

THE HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, at Metropolitan Hall, is open this day and evening.
ANNIVERSARY of Bunker Hill Chapter, O. U. A., at the Tabernacle in the evening.
DEDICATION of the Five Points Mission House, on the site of the Old Brewery, in the afternoon.
SWEETHEARTS AND WIVES, at Niblo's. Also, "The Thousand Milliners," Burton in both pieces.
AGNES DE VERE, at the Broadway; also, "The Obstinate Family," and "Little Toddlekins."
THE FLAG OF THE FREE, and "Bloomers' Rights," at the St. Charles, this evening. In the afternoon, "Black-Eyed Susan," and "The Dead Shot."
AT THE MUSEUM this evening, "Married Life." In the afternoon, "Allow me to Apologize" and "Her last Legs."
THE HIPPODROME, day and evening, Broadway and Twenty-third-st.
THE WASHINGTON CIRCUS, corner of Sixth-av. and Thirty-ninth-st.
WOOD'S MINSTRELS, No. 444 Broadway.
ASCENT OF MONT BLANC, Chinese Rooms, Broadway.
BANVARD'S HOLY LAND, No. 596 Broadway.
SANFORD'S MISSISSIPPI RIVER, No. 396 Broadway.
BRYAN GALLERY of Christian Art, No. 348 Broadway.

The weather continues very warm, and up to midnight there were no signs of change. The streets are also dreadfully dry and dusty, and need the water which they are not likely to get from the clouds.

FIRE IN THE AMERICAN HOTEL—EXTENSIVE LOSS—THREE PERSONS INJURED.—Yesterday afternoon, about 4¼ o'clock, a fire broke out in the large Building on the corner of Broadway and Barclay-st., known as the "American Hotel," and kept by Messrs. Taber & Son. The fire originated in the Laundry, in the top story, and was occasioned as is supposed by some sparks from the chimney, which was on fire at the time, falling among a quantity of dry clothes. The alarm was promptly given, but considerable delay occurred before the firemen could bring their streams to bear upon the flames, in consequence of the extreme hight of the building. The fire, meantime, raged with great fury, and the flames soon communicated to the wing of the building fronting on Barclay-st. The firemen, however, labored in the most energetic manner, and soon succeeded in subduing the flames, not, however, before the entire roof and the sixth and fifth stories were destroyed. The building throughout was